

Compositions

Foxtown Academy

Letters: 1848::

49: 1850: 1851: 1852.

Coils of riches

The great coils arising from riches is shown in a great many instances, And I will try to show that a man who is very wealthy is not as happy as one in less affluent circumstances, although he may be sometimes. A man who is very rich is generally proud and tyrannical in his disposition towards the poor and considers them mere beasts made only for his convenience, and he therefore oppresses them by every means in his power, he is therefore hated by all who know him.

While one less wealthy and who makes perhaps, his bread by the sweat of his brow is cheerful and happy, because he is happy in thinking that he has acted honestly and fairly in his every day life, and that he has not oppressed the poor, and that he has done no person any injury and he has ^{not} received any injury from any person. And he is therefore loved by every person who know him. If any person goes to his house he treats them kindly and politely whether they be rich or poor, and gives them what he has even if it is a crumb and he gives that with a good will, but a crumb given with welcome is better than a feast without it. In a country where all the wealth is held by a few persons that

October 1st 1899

W. May
No 2

country generally goes to ruin. We see an example in the starving Ireland, here all the land is held by English land holders who live abroad and hire the land out to some person and gets as much as he can: and this person in turn ^{rents} rents it out to a third person, who again rents it to a fourth, and so on each one trying to get as much as he can, and the last one who gets it has to tax the peasants very much to get what he paid for it, and thus they are like a parcel of dogs pulling at a piece of skin each one trying to get as large a piece as he can, and thus the country is drained of all its wealth which enriches another country. Now if these Noblemen were not so rich they would live at home and spend their money in their own country and the poor people would not be as they are now in Ireland starving for the crumbs which fall from the table of their oppressors. These are not all of the evils arising from wealth, and will take an instance of a young man who was raised up to enjoy all the luxuries which wealth can give, and was left a large fortune but being raised up to idleness and crime he spent his fortune and being too lazy to work he killed and robbed a man and was found out and hung and if it was not for being so rich he would not have been killed.

Seasons.

On the approach of Spring the face of the surrounding country begins to put forth its gown of green as if with delight at the approaching year. The tiny songsters begin ~~to~~ ^{sing} their ~~songs~~ ^{early songs} in the green groves and in the flowery fields by the side of some crystal brook, and followers begin to ~~put~~ ^{put} forth ~~to~~ ^{their sweet odor} to the gentle breeze as it passes by. The green run and dance with exultation ^{that} the dreary and chilly winter has passed away, and welcome with gladness the delightful Spring. The fishermen begin to prepare their tackle to enjoy the fine sport of angling, and hasten to some silver stream whose transparent waters run gurgling over the smooth white pebbles where the bright scaled finny tribe are ever ready to snatch at the tempting bait. The Huntsman takes his gun on his shoulder and wanders through the dark and shady forest and sunny plains in search of the lively squirrel and the timid partridge. Farmers begin to arouse themselves, to plough and sow their fertile fields, and see with gladness their fat cattle spring in the grassy meadows

and white sheep nipping the tender grass on
the hillsides, and five milk cows giving
in flowing streams their rich milk, to make
butter and cheese for his consumption. The
Merchant starts with his heart full of
hope and expectation to some large city
to purchase and views with joy the green
meadows and white flocks as he passes
by, which encourages him to be industrious
that he may one day become the possessor
of these beautiful lands, and look for-
ward with expectation to the time when
he may leave the close city and live
in the beautiful and healthy country.

W. Clay

W. Clay

No. 412

March 27

1850

[Signature]

508
7
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Morning

One summer morning I strolled forth to take a walk in the pleasant ^{fields}. The bright rays of the majestic sun were just beginning to enlighten the beautiful clouds of the eastern horizon, and the green grass was yet wet with the morning dew. The gay birds were singing merrily in the adjacent forests, and fertile fields by the side of some crystal brooks, and the delightful sound of the meandering brook winding its serpentine course, between banks overgrown with wild flowers, and bordered by bright water lilies, which lifted their snowy heads above the surface of the clear stream, and the faint lowing of the cattle on the distant meadows, produced a most delightful state of feeling. I proceeded onwards first plucking the fragrant flowers and then picking the white smooth pebbles from the sandy bottom of the clear stream, now listening to the gay song of the lark and then to the gentle notes of the turtle dove until I wandered far from home. Suddenly however the face of all nature

seemed to be changed, black and angry clouds were fast gathering overhead, sure indications of an approaching storm. The trees were blown to and fro as if unable to withstand the tempest, and creaked and cracked as if to be torn up by the roots. The horses and other animals which had been before quietly grazing in the neighbouring pastures now began to snort, and to toss their manes and tails and snuffing the gale, broke forth at full speed, I now turned and set out for home at full pace to escape if possible the approaching tem storm, but I had not proceeded far when the heavens began to flash with lightning and roar with thunder and the rain poured down in torrent by which I was completely drenched. I observed however and passed by that the birds which were before singing in gladness ~~and~~ now flew away seeking some more secure asyllum from the hurricane, and that the gentle brook was now swelled into a boisterous and raging torrent which overran its banks and swept away all obstructions which might lie in its way, and the beautiful flowers were now broken and swept away by the torrent

No 4th march 14th 1850

W. Clay

Benevolence

Benevolence is that feeling which prompts a person to perform a good action, alone for the benefit of the person whom the gift or well wishing is conferred. A truly benevolent person is much happier than who is only benevolent in actions not in spirit. The former gives with a free heart and with a good will, - the latter gives perhaps more but by no means is thanked as much, for the person to whom he gives the help, can see whether he gives it with his heart, or whether he only wishes to make an ostentatious display of his bounty, and thanks him accordingly.

But there is another kind of benevolence differing from those sorts above. This is when a man will give money but not attention to the wants of the poor man not with a view to be thought a benevolent character but purely with a motive to do good. Money will alleviate the wants of the poor but not as much as attention.

Two other virtues are joined in to make benevolence. These are generosity and mercy. Generosity is spontaneousness and free to every one. The generous are like to the farmer who sows his seed in the fertile and a rich harvest springs up, so the generous man sows his riches and

and blessings to the poor, and God
raises him in glory to heaven. The
merciful man is kind to all and injures
no living thing. he is merciful to his beast
and so God is merciful to him. (Blessed
are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.)

The Benevolent never turn the poor hunger-
ing at their gate, away, without filling them.
But send them away rejoicing and filled.
he forgives his enemies and prays for
his foes. How different is the selfish
man he does not confer benefits on
the poor with the money which he struggles
so hard to make but hoards it up, and
and night he sits down to count his
gains, and hugs and kisses his bags of
money, he has not the least particle
of mercy, and instead of feeding the starv-
ing suppliants at his gate he turns them
off with scorn, and nearly starves him-
self in order to save money his only god
he does every body more or less in his
neighborhood injury, and is hated and hated
by every body around him. How different is
the situation of the Benevolent person
who loves and is beloved by every
body around

1850

No. 5th March 1850

W. C. C.

Independence

Independence is that spirit which makes a man depend on his own resources, not to want or to depend on the support of others. And disclaim to buy or ask assistance from any one when he is able to earn a subsistence for himself. It does not consist in being obstinate, when any person advises him to do any thing, that he may say that that person advised me to do so, but an independent man will always follow his own conscience when he thinks he is doing right, if it corresponds with the views of his neighbors, he goes with him, but if their views do not agree with his neighbors, he goes in a different course. But some men go exactly contrary to the dictates of his own conscience and to the views of his friends for the reason of being called an independent man but he is much mistaken, and instead of being called an independent man he is called an obstinate thick-headed fool and his friends soon desert him, and he is left to pursue his obstinate course alone. But a man of a true independent spirit, will never go out of his way, for his self interest or for fear of persecution. The noble Pilgrims left their native happy land to come to a dreary cold and uninhabited

country far away from home and the comforts of life and in a savage land that they might enjoy their independent principles in freedom, and afterwards their descendants inheriting those same principles of freedom, throw off the yoke of servitude and after a long and laborious struggle and with many hardships at length attained that precious jewel independence. This was a true independent spirit, for they forsook all the pleasures of peace and happiness, for a long and bloody war because they were not allowed in servitude. And Washington one of these noble men engaged in the struggle, was independent of a desire to become a monarch over the land which he had helped to free from a monarch iron grasp. Though this offer of a crown would be rejected but by few men, for with a view of their own aggrandizement they would frustrate the liberty of their country. But how different was Washington a man ~~to~~ with truly independent principles, so far overcome his selfish interest, by a wish for the interest of others, that he rejected the offers of a crown.

Warfield Clay

March 24th/₁₁

No 5th/₁₁ 1850.

Is an advantage ever gained
by telling a falsehood?

An advantage
if ever, is very seldom gained, by telling a
falsehood. A temporary benefit may accrue from
an evasion of truth, but it will remain only
for a short time. But even if the lie is
never discovered, it still remains deeply
fixed in the heart, and the punishment
of a guilty conscience is continually tortur-
ing the unhappy person with vain regrets,
which he heartily wishes that he had
suffered the punishment (if there was any)
by which he would have suffered only for
a short time. Some people first begin
lying by giving away a little at a time.
for instance they say, "I need not tell all
I know about this business, but those
find out the best way they can't all that
I have said is true, and why should I tell
more?" Thus lying they deceive, and deception
is the beginning of lying, that is intended
to deceive. A person may say something
which is not true, and yet not tell a
falsehood, if he does not mean to deceive, or
tells that which he hears from some one
else. It he is not only a word meant to
deceive, but a wink, nod, bow, or any
intention whatever that is meant to deceive.
Therefore it is best to tell the whole
truth, or none at all, for if you do not
tell all the truth, when any part of it left
untold, would change the coloring of the

this part, you change the affair and give it a different shade from what it really has, and thus deceive the persons to whom it is addressed. When again it is asked, is it justifiable to tell a falsehood in favor of a friend? No, for in helping your friend, you may injure, some one else perhaps, but it is disputed whether it is or not right. Or is it right to tell a lie to save your own life? It is in some respects right and in some instances wrong, because you may peril some other life by the falsehood, for instance, a man is going through an enemy's country, and is taken prisoner but is permitted to return to his country and visit his friends, having promised to return after a short time, but he breaks his word and remains in his country in safety, whilst hundreds of others are suffering from his falsehood. The enemy suspecting all their prisoners if they have any more, to resemble their countryman in character, and think them to be faithless, like him will treat them cruelly, or at least will not allow them to return and visit their homes. So this single falsehood of this single man causes all this sorrow to the prisoners, in this sorrowful land. So all falsehoods may bring apparent ^{benefit} to the guilty persons, (it is only apparent) but brings sorrow and misery to the persons who suffer from the ef-

fects of the story. But is the person who causes all this sorrow happy? he may appear so but, the sting of a guilty conscience is still torturing him, he may even appear with a smiling exterior, but his interior is continually preyed upon by the remorse of a guilty heart, and is more miserable than the victims of his guilt. For they may in time recover from the effects which he has involved them in, but the liar still suffers from the effects of his evil doings. But the lie which he has told and involved some persons in difficulty may be found out, and if so he is despised as a liar and treated with scorn and contempt by all to whom he may be known, and he is hated by the persons whom he has injured, who take every possible opportunity to injure him, whenever a chance occurs. Such is the lot of a liar. But a man who always tells the truth, is treated well and respected by all his acquaintances. And if he should happen to fall into the enemy's hands and was permitted to return home on a visit, he would return as soon as the time in which he was allowed to remain had expired, for he would rather be in his enemy's prison with his word unbroken, than out with it broken.

Wm. Clay May 17th 1850

Greece

Greece is now one of the most interesting and was one of the celebrated countries in ancient times, of which we read, almost every spot is remarkable for something or other, Greece is most advantageously situated for commerce and is indented by numerous bays which greatly add to facilitate trade, and by trade Ancient Greece rose to such an immense of power and splendor whilst the neighbouring countries remained sunk in ignorance and barbarism. Ancient Greece was divided into three great divisions two great bays or gulfs nearly separating the Peloponnesus from the mainland and a range of mountains dividing the mainland into two parts, Thessaly was the most fertile country in Greece and was the granary of that country, The most powerful cities in Greece were Athens Sparta Thebes and Corinth. Athens was situated in Attica on the eastern shore of Greece, it was founded by Cecrops a native of Egypt about 1600 years before the Christian era and was named in honor of Minerva the goddess of wisdom. Athens enjoyed a height of splendor and refinement which has never been equalled, not even by Rome, when all the neighbouring countries extra Greece were in ignorance and barbarism. It was strictly republican in its government, and the majority ruled entirely, and the people did

W. D. G.
1850
May
21st

Spartans act upon the impulse of the moment which they afterwards repented, and hence arose the fierceness of the Athenian people who were as chargefull as the wind, at length they began to love money better than liberty and then they fell. Sparta is situated on the river Eurotas, unlike all other cities of that period it was left unassailed by walls. The Spartans said their valor was sufficient to defend their city. They were a city of soldiers in every sense, even the women were trained to all the military exercises, such as wrestling, boxing, running, throwing the javelin and hurling quoits, every man was expected to serve in the army a certain time, when they had attained a certain age, and when they went out to battle they were expected to conquer or die. For instance a Spartan mother told her son who was preparing to fight "Return with your shield or on your shield" it was the custom of the Spartans to bring their dead who had been killed in battle on their shields. Sparta was governed by two kings so they should mutually control each other, and the kings and princes fasted upon the coarsest food like all the other Spartans, and were trained to undergo all the hard exercises to which all their countrymen were subjected to. The Spartans rose to the highest power under the laws of Lycurgus which on account of their strictness were

the iron code, and they contended with the Athenians for superiority in Greece. Sparta lost its power in the same way with Athens; Thebes was founded by Cadmus, it was a very large city and its seven gates were much celebrated. The famous oracle of Delphi was situated in Bœotia, this oracle was consulted not only by the Greeks but by foreigners and by a great many kings of the neighboring countries, and was presented with many rich presents by them, such was the magnificence and power of Greece in ancient times, how different is it now Modern Greece comprises the peninsula lying south of Thracia and extending into the Mediterranean Sea. It was conquered by the Turks and was subjected to the most cruel ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~and~~ for a long time, but within a few years it revolted from the Turks and by the help of the combined forces of England France and Russia it recovered its independence and was formed into a Monarchy. Otho 1st was elected king and he now is the reigning prince of the Country, it is now in an unsettled state. How sad is the shape of this country. The magnificent Athens celebrated for its Orators Statesmen Soldiers Poets Sculptors and Architects, is now a small dirty village full of beggars such are the corrupting influences of great wealth.

W. Clay, May 20th 1850

Education

The importance of education is every acknowledged and by every person — whether he be rich or poor, old or young. The advantages of a well educated over one of inferior intellect are innumerable. All the inventions of every age have been owing to the efforts of a person who educated himself or by the assistance of some person, not to mere chance. Education teaches men not only to look at the outward form and color but also at the reason why it is of such a color and analysis all its parts, and the composition of the several parts.

By the assistance of education and their own ingenuity men have compelled steam to become servicable to mankind and also the lightning of heaven to be the servant and bearer of news from one country to another. For, and has converted steam to become the packhorse of mankind by means of railroads and steam boats. An educated man will never be destitute of employment, if he is honest and wants it, he is raised above the low and vulgar who may surround him, but he never brags about his knowledge. Solomon says: shut your mouth and let thine ears be open

that you may hear and learn. An uneducated man will never succeed in the world as well as an educated one, for if he is engaged in any trade he will not know how to tell whether he is making or losing, for instance if he be a merchant, he will have to buy at a cheaper rate and sell a little higher so as to make a reasonable profit, but not too high less he will not have a lucrative business, and his customers leave him or not too low less he become bankrupt. As all agree that education is necessary they only differ on what plan it had better be pursued.

W. Clay

W. Clay
Feb 15th 1850
1850

1850 Warfield Clay?

The West

By this term we are to understand that name given to the western part of the United States and comprises the states of Tennessee Ohio Kentucky Indiana Illinois Missouri Michigan and Arkansas and the territories of Wisconsin and Iowa and all of that vast region extending from the Mississippi river to the Pacific Ocean, a century ago these fertile and cultivated tracts were an unexplored wilderness inhabited only by wild beasts and by wilder men who held undisputed sway over these vast domains and who made the forests resound with horrid shrieks and thrilling war whoops, but a century has changed the aspect of things very much, and in the forests where formerly the Indian huts were alone to be seen, have now been hewn down and their places supplied by flourishing towns and villages and the sounds of the woodman's axe are to be heard on every side and the waters on which the light canoe once glided are now traversed in every direction by steam boats and heavily laden flat boats bearing the produce from the upper regions down south, and the natives have been driven west by inch from their ancestral homes and former hunting grounds farther and farther west or have been slain with the sword or by an more destructive weapon. ^{They are} ~~They are~~ ^{now} supplied by the cunning white man. ^{As population is pushing on westward and more} continues to increase and towns are rapidly

springing up in every direction, and this region
must shortly acquire great power and riches. It
abounds with all kinds of minerals and Gold
Silver Lead Iron Tin Copper and Coal are
found in many places California abound
in gold and this portion of the West is the
valuable acquisition to the United States. Its
minerals ^{minerals} is unbounded and its riches in gold and
the fertility of the soil is drawing thousands from
every quarter of the globe, and the chief city
San Francisco which was a few years only a small
village now contains many thousands of inhabitants
and is rapidly increasing in population and
wealth. The whole of the western country is
traversed in every way by large and navigable
streams which bear the products of the more
northern and eastern parts down to the southern
regions and steamboats which ^{carry} an extensive
intercourse trade among the different towns and
States and by which all of the goods are
transported from the east for the use of
the western inhabitants, and the land is traversed
in every direction by railways and canals
which greatly add to facilitate trade. Many of
the Indians have been converted in the West
to christianity and and great many have been
taught to read and write by Missionaries who
have been sent out from the East. Many
of the inhabitants of the western states
cannot read or write but there has been system
of common school lately established and
before many years all of the inhabitants
may have the opportunity of reading and

writing there are also very many Universities
and Colleges in this part of the country and
numbers of Academies and Seminars which
have a great many pupils. The fertility of
the soil of this region, because the inhabitants
nearly to be farmers, the chief products are
Wheat Rye Oats Barley Flax and Tobacco
is raised in a great number of places. Most
of the inhabitants are engaged in either raising
cattle Hogs Mules & Sheep or in raising hemp
All of these articles are exported in great
numbers and quantities and furnish a
great many of the inhabitants of the other
part of the continent and even of the world
with food. The haying formed from
the hemp is exported to New Orleans and
is used for binding up cotton bales. Also
the products of the mines are very great
and annually yield an immense amount of
Iron Tin Copper & Lead there is a solid mass
of Limestone in Missouri which would of
itself alone supply the world with Iron
for many years. There are a great many
natural curiosities in the west, the Narrows
the cave in Kentucky is the principal
and is annually visited from all parts
of the world. The Mississippi the largest
river in the world flows through the
west from north to south, and Lake
Superior the largest fresh water lake
in the world ^{and} is navigated by
many ships

1850^o

Italy

Italy is a very fine and fertile peninsula extending into the Mediterranean Sea. The surface of this delightful country is diversified with mountains and valleys. The climate is very salubrious and pleasant. there is scarcely any dark clouds to be seen, and the majestic sun rises and sets without being obscured from the sight of man, and many of the inhabitants often sleep in the open air on the tops of their houses which are flat, and the bright and sunny skies^{of Italy} are renowned all over the world. The soil of this peninsula is exceedingly fertile, bearing fruits and grain in any quantities yet notwithstanding the productiveness of the soil the inhabitants understand and carry on but very little agriculture. The inhabitants are remarkably lazy and indolent, and care but how they get a living so they do get it. The cities are filled with beggars and robbers and the country with brigands who either kill or rob any person who may chance to fall in their clutches, so it is very unsafe travelling without a guard. Though painting and sculpture are cultivated with much care, and most artists go to Italy to perfect themselves in the art of painting and sculpture. The people of Italy have great musical taste and nearly every one can play and sing on some instrument. But the inhabitants who are indolent do not resemble the people of ancient Italy who were the bravest and the most hardy. This was

seat of the Ancient Romans who conquered
the Greeks and nearly all civilized countries
and was once the mightiest empire on earth but
how much their power diminished and that
city which was once in itself a Kingdom, is
now as mean town in comparison with its former
splendor. Italy now comprises the peninsula and
the island of Sicily and Sardinia, and is divided
up into petty states nearly all which are
under their own government or foreign power
the two largest and most important ^{are} Sicily
and the States of the Church or Papedom
The first comprises the most southern part
of Italy and the island of the same name
it is a Kingdom, and the city of Naples is
the capital. The last occupies the middle
portion and is the seat of the Catholic
Church, it is under the government of the
Pope who is absolute and who has temporal
as well as spiritual power over the people.
They attempted to throw off ^{this power} but did
not succeed because France who had but
a little time thrown of the Royal authority
sent her armies to crush her feeble efforts
for Liberty.

M. Clay

W. C. C. 1854

Early Friendships

Those friendships contracted in early youth are more lasting, sincere, and disinterested than any other. How much joy, and what pleasant recollections are aroused at the mention of the name of some early friend or favourite playfellow! How much gladness is awakened in the heart at the remembrance of the pleasures of our early days, and the happy hours spent in the society of our first friends and loved companions. When no cares perplexed the mind and no sorrows entered the heart - when the day seemed long, yet the night came too soon, and we were as merry as the day was long. But those joyous days have now fled, and those pleasant times have passed as a dream, whilst the merry countenances of our young companions have vanished from our sight.

Where is the person who does not look back through the cares and troubles of mature age upon the scenes of childhood, with fond recollection? Who has passed those happy days in frolicsome discussions surrounded by a throng of merry playmates, and does not consider his childhood as the most happy period of his existence? A person generally regards his native home as the most beautiful spot on earth.

and the air of his native hills as the sweetest he ever breathed. A person may travel over the whole earth, and see the noblest works of art and the most splendid sepulchral monuments but they are far less interesting to him than the modest tombs of his dearest parents or that of some lamented friend. He may see the most magnificent temples, but how much more beautiful to him is his own native village church. He hears the most delightful sounds yet the chime of the bells in the village church in his native valley sound far more agreeable to his imagination, and the thought reminds him (now amid foreigners) of his native home still regarded with affection. What is it, that makes home so much beloved? It is not the immediate objects of nature, which we love, but it is because that every spot is connected with some pleasant associations, or with some interesting event. There our first connections were formed, which cling to the memory with an tenacious grasp, and are never effaced by time, care, or troubles, which consecrate those lifeless objects. Whilst many things which occur to a person in middle age are forgotten, those incidents which occur to them in childhood are ever remembered. When thoughts of home are aroused when a person is in a foreign land all of the images of his beloved companions are vividly impressed on his mind

and they generally excite a desire in him to revisit the pleasant scenes of his childhood, his native hills, and groves, and especially those loved friends of his early life. All of the sorrows and vexations of home are forgotten, and only its pleasures and beauties are now seen. Just as a rugged mountain when viewed in the dim distance is robbed of its roughness by the green foliage above. In sickness far from home and friends, a person misses those kind attentions which he was accustomed to receive at home, every person seems cold and unfriendly and their uncharitableness impresses more forcibly on his mind the hardness and attention of his friends which counselled him in sickness.

W. Gray Novem
June 1850

Benjamin Franklin

The great philosopher was born on January 17th 1706 of poor but honest parents, his father having a very large family to support and that alone by his own labor was unable to give him a good education, so Franklin owes all to his own exertions, by which he arose to the greatest honors and vast learning, but he early displayed symptoms of study and a desire to learn. And as he said himself, he did not remember when he could not read, all of his older brothers were put apprentices to different trades and he was sent to a grammar school when he was eight years old destined by his father to be a preacher, after he had remained a few years at the school and had learned to write a pretty good hand he was taken away to help his father in his trade which was that of a Soap boiler and Tallow Chandler, he disliked the trade very much and wished to go to sea, but his father saw his inclinations and tried to subdue them. And he seeing him so inclined to books that he determined to apprentice him to his brother James who was printing a paper in Philadelphia the second paper ever printed in America, whilst he was in this employment he wrote several pieces himself and thrust them under the door at night without any name, and had the pleasure of hearing

W. B. G.

Done 9th 1750

them approved of by his brother and some distinguished and sensible men who frequented his brother's office. And a Mr. Adams who frequented his office and who had a pretty collection of books took notice of him and invited to come and read some of them which offer was thankfully accepted. Franklin had some taste for poetry and wrote a few pieces, he oftentimes took some books and turned some of the lines to poetry and then after sometime when he had forgotten the prose he would return it to prose and compare his with the original and correct such parts as were not correct and thus he exercised himself in composition and made himself as he afterwards found a good writer, and he was so fond of reading that he, having found a book which recommended vegetable diet, engaged a woman to bring him his dinner every day consisting only of bread & butter, and whilst his father and other apprentices went home to their dinners he remained at the office and read, but it seems that Franklin and his brother did not agree very well and they had many disputes and at last he having had a dispute and his father siding with his brother and also as he doubted many of the religious customs and disputations about ~~Christianity~~ religion and was filled at with horror and dread by the religious people as an infidel and atheist

he determined to go to New York where he hoped to get a place of a journeyman in some printing office, but as he knew that his father would not consent to his going he resolved to give them the slip, and he arrived in New York aged 17 and with very little money and three hundred miles from home but as he was unsuccessful in obtaining a situation in New York he proceeded to Philadelphia and as his first entrance into Philadelphia is so common and ^{has been} so often described I will omit it here but it is said to have been very ridiculous. He succeeded in getting a situation he and he stayed in the place several years reading continually and increasing in knowledge, and here he commenced the publication of a pamphlet called Poor Richard's Almanack, which abounded in good instruction and worthy proverbs which became very celebrated and did much good in the country, he was after some time chosen speaker-master of Philadelphia and he raised a subscription for the purpose of buying a public library, and he first established a fire company in the greater city, and he tried to have the streets paved which were at that time unpaved and very muddy, he also ^{made} ~~invented~~ many new and useful inventions this great man died on April 17 1790 in a calm and peaceful state, regretted by his friends and by his country, a remarkable instance of what industry and perseverance may do without the aid of wealth.

W. May June 10th 1850

and noble man died on the 14th of Dec 1799 a sad and sorrowful day throughout the whole country, he died calmly as became the defender of his country, our liberty and the father of his country and a good Christian.

" The defender of his country the founder of Liberty
The friend of man.

History and tradition are explored in vain
for a parallel to his character
or an equal to his name.

The subtle scenes of antiquity
lose their lustre in his presence

Agonizant in youth
Glorious through life
Great in death

Hodie regretted by a mourning world

June 13th 1850

M. Clay

- History
1. What is it?
 2. Differences America
 3. Teachers of govern.
 4. 11. 18th & 19th centuries
 5. " " " " " "
 6. " " " " " "
 7. " " " " " "
 8. " " " " " "
 9. " " " " " "
 10. " " " " " "
 11. " " " " " "

- Washington
1. What good does it do?
 2. What effect on our country?
 3. " " " " " "
 4. " " " " " "
 5. " " " " " "
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- Education
What is it?
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Washington

Virginia is celebrated all over America for having been the birthplace and native state of most of the presidents of the United States, and of the most celebrated Orators, Patriots, Statesmen and Generals and illustrious men of the bar and of every other occupation who have ever called America their country and native land. But the greatest name amongst such names as Madison, Jefferson, Monroe, Harrison, Patrick Henry, Randolph, Clay, Scott and Tyler is that of Washington. He was a prudent statesman, Patriot & a General all combined, and was no more honored than loved and was justly called the Father of his country. He was born on the 22nd Feb 1732, while his day is now celebrated with festivity and rejoicing by the descendants of those whom he fought to make free. His father having died when he was very young, the charge of his education and raising devolved on his widowed mother, and the object of her instruction plainly shows how well she acquitted herself of the duty of instructing him who was not considered as belonging to America but to the world. He was brought up to respect God, his mother and Father and to have strict regard for the truth.

And throughout all his life he
always held fast to the truth, as several
well known anecdotes will show, he posses-
ed also an uncommon industry and perse-
verance, having been educated in a comm-
on school he was taught reading, writing
spelling Arithmetic &c. &c. but he afterwards
studied Surveying and the higher Mathemat-
icks and such was his love for Mathemat-
icks and the Military that he spent
all of his play hours when at school
in surveying the neighbouring fields and
forming his schoolmates into companies
a fighting mimic battles, and ^{such was} his well-
known love for truth and open candour
that all the disputes of his school mates
were carried before him for decision and
judgment, and it is said that there was ~~never~~
a case known in which either of the disputants
were unsatisfied for if George Washington decided
against them they must be wrong. In the year
1776 when he was only fourteen years old ~~his~~
brother Lawrence an officer in the British navy
obtained a midshipmans office for him, having observed
his desire of a military life, but he was prevailed
upon not to accept it by his mother and such
was his ~~parental~~ ^{filial} fondness that he returned from
the ship, one instance among many of his
love for his mother. At the age of nineteen
he was engaged by Lord Fairfax to survey an
immense tract of land belonging to him, and he
undertook this immense work alone accompanied
only by George Fairfax the son of his employer

He executed this survey in such a manner as to establish
his reputation as a surveyor, When Washington was
about twenty years old the French began to make
encroachments on the western frontiers and were
driving the Indians to kill and scalp all the
English settlers within their reach. And such was their
fury and cruelty led on by the more warlike French
that there was scarcely a town on the frontiers
which was not captured and the inhabitants
massacred in cold blood, and such was the
terror and dread of the Indians that all the
inhabitants who had escaped the sword retreated
in the interior, and thus a number of flourish-
ing settlements in western Virginia were destroyed.
The clamors of the people grew loud ^{for protection} and the
cloud of desolation and sorrow overspread the
country. The time had now arrived when the military
preparatives of Washington were to be called into execution
Washington was appointed a Major by Lord Fairfax
and was sent to convert some Indian chiefs who
were friendly to the English and demand an
escort to attend to attend him to the disputed
territory, for the purpose of ascertaining what the
intentions of the French were? he set out on
this expedition on the 3^d of November 1753, which he
executed with skill and prudence although his
mission was unsuccessful, the war of the Revolution
broke out shortly afterwards and his brave and noble
deeds made him known to the world, after the
close of war he was twice elected President of the
nation and was pressed to accept the crown that
his sons to noble to make the country a despotism
which he laboured so gallantly to free, this great

Speak gently to the erring
by Frederick G. See

1st
Speak gently to the erring
Ye know not all the power
With which the dark temptation came, and they who share a happier fate
In some unguarded hour

6th
It is surely a weary lot
That sin crushed heart to bear
Their chidings, well may you

2nd
Ye may not know how earnestly
They struggled, or how well,
Untill the hour of weakness came,
And sadly thus they fell!

7th
Thou yet mayest lead them back
With holy words and tones of love
From misery's thorny track:
Thou yet mayest chase of sin's pursuit

3rd
Speak gently to the erring
Oh! do not thou forget
Thou'er darkly stained by crime
He is thy brother yet.

8th
Speak kindly to the erring
Thou yet mayest lead them back
With holy words and tones of love
From misery's thorny track:

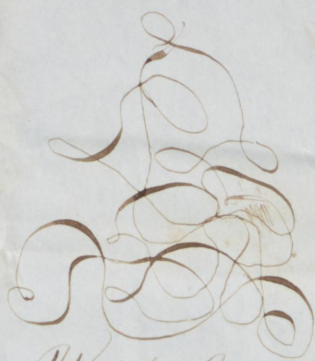
4th
Heir of the selfsame heritage
Child of the selfsame god
Who hath but stumbled in the path
Thou hast in weakness trod.

9th
Forget not thou has often sinned
And sinful yet must be
Deal kindly with the erring one
As God has dealt with thee

5th
Speak kindly to the erring,
That is it not enough,
That innocence and peace are gone,
Without thy censure rough!

June 18th 1851.

Frederick G. See.



Warfield Clay

Poetry by
F. G. Lee

F. G. Lee

MS. 858

Warfield Clay

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